

tion of offensive and defensive strategic nuclear-weapon systems, to agree, as an urgent preliminary measure, on a moratorium on further testing and deployment of new offensive and defensive strategic nuclear-weapon systems,

Noting with satisfaction that the first phase of such negotiations resulted in the conclusion, on 26 May 1972, of three bilateral instruments on the above-mentioned matter²³ and that the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America announced that they had entered, on 21 November 1972, a second phase of negotiations,

Convinced of the necessity that the renewed negotiations should bring about early and positive results in the field of nuclear disarmament,

1. *Appeals* to the Governments of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America to make every effort to expedite the conclusion of further agreements including important qualitative limitations and substantial reductions of offensive and defensive strategic nuclear-weapon systems;

2. *Invites* those two Governments to keep the General Assembly informed of the results of their negotiations.

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2933 (XXVII). Chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 2454 A (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, 2603 B (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, 2662 (XXV) of 7 December 1970 and 2827 A (XXVI) of 16 December 1971,

Expressing its determination to act with a view to achieving effective progress towards general and complete disarmament, including the prohibition and elimination of all types of weapons of mass destruction such as those using chemical or bacteriological (biological) agents,

Noting that the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction²⁴ has been opened for signature and has already been signed by a large number of States,

Convinced that the Convention is a first possible step towards the achievement of early agreement on the effective prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons and on the elimination of such weapons from military arsenals of all States, and determined to continue negotiations to this end,

Recalling the provisions of article IX of that Convention,

Recalling that the General Assembly has repeatedly condemned all actions contrary to the principles and objectives of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925.²⁵

²³ See A/C.1/1026.

²⁴ See resolution 2826 (XXVI), annex.

²⁵ League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. XCIV, No. 2138, p. 65.

Reaffirming the need for the strict observance by all States of the principles and objectives of that Protocol,

Having considered the report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament,²⁶

Noting that a work programme, a draft convention on the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons and on their destruction, and other working papers, proposals and suggestions were submitted to the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament,

Conscious of the benefits to mankind that would result from the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons,

Desiring to create a favourable atmosphere for a successful outcome of these negotiations,

1. *Reaffirms* the recognized objective of effective prohibition of chemical weapons;

2. *Reiterates*, to this end, the request made by the General Assembly to the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament, in resolution 2827 A (XXVI), to continue negotiations, as a matter of high priority, with a view to reaching early agreement on effective measures for the prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons and for their destruction;

3. *Stresses* the importance of working towards the complete realization of the objective of effective prohibition of chemical weapons as set forth in the present resolution and urges Governments to work towards that end;

4. *Reaffirms* its hope for the widest possible adherence to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction;

5. *Invites* all States that have not yet done so to accede to the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare of 17 June 1925 and/or ratify this Protocol, and calls anew for the strict observance by all States of the principles and objectives contained therein;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament all documents of the First Committee relating to questions connected with the problem of chemical weapons and chemical methods of warfare;

7. *Requests* the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament to report on the results of its negotiations to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session.

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2934 (XXVII). Urgent need for suspension of nuclear and thermonuclear tests

A

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the urgent need for the cessation of nuclear and thermonuclear weapon tests,

²⁶ Official Records of the Disarmament Commission, Supplement for 1972, document DC/235.

Recalling its resolution 2602 E (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, by which it declared the decade of the 1970s as a Disarmament Decade, and its resolution 2734 (XXV) of 16 December 1970, which contains the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security,

Recalling also its resolutions 914 (X) of 16 December 1955, 1762 (XVII) of 6 November 1962, 1910 (XVIII) of 27 November 1963, 2032 (XX) of 3 December 1965, 2163 (XXI) of 5 December 1966, 2343 (XXII) of 19 December 1967, 2455 (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, 2604 (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, 2663 (XXV) of 7 December 1970 and 2828 (XXVI) of 16 December 1971,

I

Noting with regret that all States have not yet adhered to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water, signed in Moscow on 5 August 1963,²⁷

Expressing serious concern that testing of nuclear weapons in the atmosphere has continued in some parts of the world, including the Pacific area, in disregard of the spirit of that Treaty and of world opinion,

Noting in this connexion the statements made by the Governments of various countries in and around the Pacific area, expressing strong opposition to those tests and urging that they be halted,

1. Stresses anew the urgency of bringing to a halt all atmospheric testing of nuclear weapons in the Pacific or anywhere else in the world;

2. Urges all States that have not yet done so to adhere without further delay to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water and, meanwhile, to refrain from testing in the environments covered by that Treaty;

II

Noting that no less than nine years have elapsed since the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water came into force,

Taking into account the determination expressed by the parties to that Treaty to continue negotiations to conclude a treaty resulting in the permanent banning of all nuclear weapon test explosions,

1. Declares that a treaty banning all nuclear weapon tests is an important element in the consolidation of the progress towards disarmament and arms control made thus far and that it would greatly facilitate future progress in these fields;

2. Calls upon all nuclear-weapon States to suspend nuclear weapon tests in all environments;

3. Calls upon the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament to give urgent consideration to the question of a treaty banning all nuclear weapon tests, taking into account the views already expressed in the Conference, the opinions stated at the current session of the General Assembly and, above all, the pressing need for the early conclusion of such a treaty.

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²⁷ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 480, No. 6964, p. 43.

B

The General Assembly,

Conscious of the dangers to mankind presented by a continuation of the nuclear arms race,

Believing that a cessation of all nuclear and thermonuclear weapon tests, including those carried out underground, would contribute to a deceleration of the nuclear arms race, to the promotion of further arms control and disarmament measures, and to a reduction in world tension,

Believing further that a cessation of all nuclear weapon testing would inhibit the wider dissemination of nuclear weapons,

Noting with regret that not all States have yet adhered to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water, signed in Moscow on 5 August 1963,²⁸

Noting with regret that, despite the determination expressed by parties to that Treaty to achieve the discontinuance of all test explosions of nuclear weapons for all time, parties to the Treaty continue to test nuclear weapons underground and that no specific proposals for an underground test ban agreement are under negotiation,

Recalling that the General Assembly has repeatedly expressed its concern regarding the continuation of nuclear and thermonuclear weapon testing, in particular in its resolutions 914 (X) of 16 December 1955, 1762 (XVII) of 6 November 1962, 1910 (XVIII) of 27 November 1963, 2032 (XX) of 3 December 1965, 2163 (XXI) of 5 December 1966, 2343 (XXII) of 19 December 1967, 2455 (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, 2604 (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, 2663 (XXV) of 7 December 1970 and 2828 (XXVI) of 16 December 1971,

Having considered the report submitted on 26 September 1972 by the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament,²⁹ and in particular the sections thereof concerned with achieving a comprehensive test ban,

Noting with satisfaction the completion of a first set of bilateral agreements on the limitation of strategic arms and expressing the hope that the progress so far achieved will lead to further agreed limitations on nuclear arms and be conducive to the negotiation of a ban on underground nuclear weapon testing,

1. Stresses again the urgency of halting all nuclear weapon testing in all environments by all States;

2. Urges all States that have not yet done so to adhere without further delay to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water and, meanwhile, to refrain from testing in the environments covered by that Treaty;

3. Calls upon all Governments conducting underground nuclear weapon tests, particularly those parties to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water, immediately to undertake unilateral or negotiated measures that would suspend or reduce such testing, pending the early entry into force of a ban on all nuclear weapon tests in all environments;

²⁸ *Ibid.*

²⁹ *Official Records of the Disarmament Commission, Supplement for 1972*, document DC/235.

4. *Urges* Governments that have been carrying out nuclear weapon tests to take an active and constructive part in presenting and developing in the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament, or in any other appropriate body, specific proposals for a comprehensive test ban;

5. *Requests* the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament to give first priority to its deliberations on a treaty banning underground nuclear weapon tests, taking full account of views of experts and of technical developments bearing on the verification of such a treaty, and further requests the Conference to submit a special report to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session on the results of its deliberations on this matter;

6. *Urges* Governments to take all appropriate measures further to develop existing capabilities for detection and identification of underground nuclear tests through seismological and other technical means, and to increase international co-operation in the elaboration of relevant techniques and evaluation of seismographic data, in order to facilitate an underground nuclear weapon test ban;

7. *Calls upon* Governments to seek as a matter of urgency a halt to all nuclear weapon testing, and to endeavour to achieve at the earliest possible date a comprehensive test ban and to obtain universal adherence to such a ban.

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C

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its deep apprehension concerning the harmful consequences of nuclear weapon tests for the acceleration of the arms race and for the health of present and future generations of mankind,

Deploring that the General Assembly has not yet succeeded in its aim of achieving a comprehensive test ban, despite twenty-one successive resolutions on the subject,

Deploring further that the determination expressed by the original parties to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water, signed in Moscow on 5 August 1963,³⁰ to pursue negotiations to achieve the discontinuance of all test explosions of nuclear weapons for all time has not so far produced the desired results,

Recalling its resolutions 1762 A (XVII) of 6 November 1962 and 2828 A (XXVI) of 16 December 1971, whereby all nuclear weapon tests, without exception, were condemned,

1. *Reiterates once again with the utmost vigour* its condemnation of all nuclear weapon tests;

2. *Reaffirms its conviction* that, whatever may be the differences on the question of verification, there is no valid reason for delaying the conclusion of a comprehensive test ban of the nature contemplated in the preamble to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water;

3. *Urges once more* the Governments of nuclear-weapon States to bring to a halt all nuclear weapon tests at the earliest possible date, and in any case not later than 5 August 1973, either through a

permanent agreement or through unilateral or agreed moratoria;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to the nuclear-weapon States and to inform the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session of any measures they have taken to implement it.

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2935 (XXVII). Implementation of General Assembly resolution 2830 (XXVI) concerning the signature and ratification of Additional Protocol II of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (Treaty of Tlatelolco)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 1911 (XVIII) of 27 November 1963, 2286 (XXII) of 5 December 1967, 2456 B (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, 2666 (XXV) of 7 December 1970 and 2830 (XXVI) of 16 December 1971,

Recalling in particular that in four of those resolutions it addressed appeals to the nuclear-weapon States to sign and ratify Additional Protocol II of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (Treaty of Tlatelolco) as soon as possible,

Having taken note of the fact that the Government of the People's Republic of China, on 14 November 1972, made the following solemn declaration:

"The Chinese Government has repeatedly declared that at no time and in no circumstances will China be the first to use nuclear weapons. As a specific undertaking regarding the nuclear-weapon-free zone in Latin America, I now declare solemnly on behalf of the Chinese Government: China will never use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear Latin American countries and the Latin American nuclear-weapon-free zone, nor will China test, manufacture, produce, stockpile, install or deploy nuclear weapons in these countries or in this zone, or send her means of transportation and delivery carrying nuclear weapons to traverse the territory, territorial sea and territorial air space of Latin American countries."³¹

1. *Reaffirms its conviction* that, for the maximum effectiveness of any treaty establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone, the co-operation of the nuclear-weapon States is necessary and that such co-operation should take the form of commitments likewise undertaken in a formal international instrument which is legally binding, such as a treaty, convention or protocol;

2. *Recalls with particular satisfaction* that the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America became parties to Additional Protocol II of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (Treaty of Tlatelolco) in 1969 and 1971, respectively;

3. *Welcomes also with satisfaction*, as a preliminary measure, the solemn declaration made by the Government of the People's Republic of China on 14

³⁰ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 480, No. 6964, p. 43.

³¹ Statement by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China. See A/C.1/1028.